

graduated from Pocatello High School and received her degree from Idaho State University in 1966.

In 1966 as a bright-eyed and enthusiastic graduate of Idaho State University, she left Pocatello and boarded a plane for Washington, DC and arrived in our Nation's capital without having yet obtained a job. She was quickly hired by the Democratic Congressman from Idaho, Compton White Jr. After Congressman White's defeat in 1966, she immediately came on board Republican Congressman George Hansen's staff. From 1967 to 1969 Valorie proved to be an outstanding staff member for the Congressman and excelled in this capacity. In 1969 she returned with her husband Bill to Pocatello and became a teacher in the local school system and was involved in local education issues.

In 1973, her knowledge and work experience helped her to land a position as district director with one of the great leaders of Idaho, my predecessor, Senator James A. McClure. In this capacity she came to be well respected and looked upon for advice by Senator McClure. She worked for Senator McClure until his retirement in 1991.

Valorie Watkins' work for the people of Idaho is earmarked by her astute ability to keep in close contact with constituents by being involved in her community. She served in many capacities over the years in Pocatello; she has done an immense amount of work with the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, serving on over eight committees, including serving as a member of the board of directors from 1993 to 1996. She has been heavily involved in the Soroptimist International of Pocatello, from which she received several awards and also served as its president from 1993 to 1994.

In the 16 county region of which she oversaw, Valorie has come to be well respected by many leaders on both sides of the political aisle. Valorie has traveled throughout southeast Idaho to small communities like Preston, Montpelier, Soda Springs, and Malad and gained the respect of many Idahoans because of her help. Many leaders have sought her help and advice, including mayors, city councilman, county commissioners, educators and administrators, and Idaho State representatives. She is also well respected by many of the Federal Government agency heads in the area, and has worked closely with some of those individuals to resolve trying cases.

Whenever southeast Idahoans have sought help from my office with a problem with a Federal agency, they most likely have found it with Valorie Watkins. In a more memorable and recent incident, Valorie took the lead in my office's involvement with Tom Johansen, a Pocatello scrap metal dealer who was brought into the national spotlight when he unknowingly bought several thousand tons of sensitive nuclear hardware and blueprints from the Department of Energy at an auction. Valorie's involvement with the case

and persistence played a part in forcing the DOE to provide an equitable resolution in what might have otherwise been a disaster for Mr. Johansen.

Valorie's service to the people of Idaho I believe can be summed up from an editorial written by the editor of the Preston Idaho Citizen, a local small town newspaper in eastern Idaho:

Over the years while Valorie was an aid to Senator Jim McClure and to Senator Larry Craig, she has been a wonderful intermediary for just about anyone who had a challenge that concerned the Federal Government. She is one of the most personable persons that we know and we have been so grateful for her listening ear and her assistance in cases where there has been a need for contact with the Federal Government. Valorie Watkins is most approachable. . . . We see her move as a gain for Idaho State University and a loss for Senator Larry Craig!

And so, Mr. President, as Valorie brings to a close her long and productive career in service to the people of Idaho and this Nation, I wish her and her husband Bill nothing but the very best wishes for happiness and prosperity. ●

APPOINTMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to title 46, section 1295(b), of the United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAU], from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE], at large.

THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, yesterday morning, I had the pleasure of appearing on "Face the Nation," an always engaging experience. One of the subjects we covered in our wide-ranging questions and answers was the role of religious groups, in particular the Christian Coalition, in contemporary politics.

During the course of our discussion, I commented on the fact that the Republican Party welcomes the participation of people of all faiths, and I disagreed with those who see something ominous or irregular in what is sometimes called the religious right. These are, in fact, good people who are rightly concerned about the security of their homes, the safety of their children, and the future of family life in America.

Both parties need the participation of people like that. Moral and ethical concerns should not be the singular property of either party. That is what I was trying to convey in my comments concerning religious Americans and the Democratic Party. I meant to express the hope that our fellow citizens, whose religious beliefs lead them to advocate school prayer, engage in

home-schooling, or oppose abortion, could feel equally at home on either side of the political fence.

I did not mean to imply, and I regret it if my comments suggested otherwise, that the Democratic Party is without religious members. That of course is not the case. Neither party has a monopoly on faith, although, judging from the results of the 1994 elections, the GOP does seem to have a better track record with miracles.

I want to assure my colleagues, as well as the national television viewing audience of "Face the Nation," that I have the greatest respect for the diversity of faith represented within both Republican and Democratic ranks. And I close with the observation that, during the next 2 months or so, as the Senate deals with the hardest, toughest issues of the day, both sides of the aisle here will need our share of prayers.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1995

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate immediately resume consideration of H.R. 4, the welfare reform bill.

I ask further unanimous consent that the Senate recess between the hours of 12:30 and 2:15 for the weekly policy conferences to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will resume consideration of the welfare reform bill tomorrow morning. Under a previous consent agreement, there will be a rollcall vote at approximately 9:10 tomorrow morning on or in relation to the Conrad amendment.

Following that vote and a 4-minute debate, there will be a rollcall vote on or in relation to the Feinstein amendment. All Senators can therefore expect two rollcall votes early tomorrow morning.

Following those votes, the Senate will begin debate on the Breau amendment on maintenance of effort, with a vote to occur on that amendment at 2:15. Senators are also reminded that a cloture motion was filed this evening but in accordance with the consent agreement reached on Friday, that cloture vote will not occur prior to 6 p.m. this forthcoming Wednesday.

ORDER FOR RECESS UNTIL 9 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. CHAFEE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I